

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

~~S/S Paine~~

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Guidance provided in memo from
Mr. Kissinger to Secretary dated March 23, 1971
7104181 August 18, 1971

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RS/R FILES

Attention ~~EE~~ MRS MULLETT

Keep this study together.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

COPIES TO:

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SCI

Subject: European Participation in
Post-Apollo Space Program

As you know, since late 1969 Dr. Paine and subsequently Dr. Low, on the staff of NASA, have been exploring with Western Europe, Canada, Japan and Australia the possibility of their substantial participation in the post-Apollo Space Transportation System Program. The Western European countries have expressed considerable interest. Consequently, there have been two political-level meetings with the European Space Conference represented by Theo Lefevre (former Belgian Prime Minister) and the delegation headed by Alex Johnson on our side. The last meeting was held on February 11 and 12 here in Washington, and we are now in the process of preparing a written statement of our views for transmittal within the next ten days or so to the European Space Conference.

The most difficult political issue that has emerged from these discussions is the European insistence that if they give up their own launcher program to participate in our post-Apollo program they require an assurance that we will launch regional telecommunication satellites of interest to them. On our side the problem is how to do so without derogating our responsibility to our other partners and to ourselves for the success of the single global INTELSAT system.

Much hard bargaining will be required before a basis for the resolution of this issue is reached

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and we do not underestimate the difficulties. We have felt that prospects for success are reasonable and plan to continue our efforts to engage European participation in the program. However, before entering the next phase of the negotiations, I have felt it prudent to check with you to ensure our efforts continue to be in accord with your views.


William P. Rogers

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